

Office of Communications

703-248-5003 FAX 703-248-5146 publicinfo@ci.falls-church.va.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Friday, May 6, 2005

CONTACT: Dionne C. Williams 703-248-5101

City of Falls Church Proclaims May 2005 as "Watershed Awareness Month"

The City of Falls Church has partnered with Arlington County and the City of Alexandria to proclaim May as Watershed Awareness Month to educate residents and businesses about the importance of water and what they can do to protect water quality in their daily activities.

In honor of "Watershed Awareness Month", each jurisdiction is hosting a proclamation ceremony and a volunteer celebration for residents who have participated in watershed education efforts. The volunteer programs include the Livable Neighborhood Water Stewardship Program, Stream Stewards, storm drain marking, and the annual Watershed-friendly Garden Tour. These programs serve to raise awareness about what individuals can do on their properties, in their homes, and through their transportation choices to improve water quality.

The City of Falls Church is committed to improving and protecting local streams, the Potomac River, and the Chesapeake Bay, as habitat for plant and animal life and as recreational and drinking water resources for our citizens. The City has demonstrated its commitment to watershed protection through the installation of demonstration projects at City facilities such as cisterns, porous pavers, and rain gardens.

To find out more about what you can do to protect water quality, visit www.ci.falls-church.va.us or call Environmental Programs Specialist Annette Mills at 703-248-5176.

Watershed Awareness Month Activities in the City of Falls Church

- Backyard Composting Class (Saturday, May 14, 3 4:30 p.m.)
- Bike Tour: Exploring the Streams of Falls Church (Sunday, May 15, 1-3 p.m.)
- Film Showing: "Reining in the Storm" (Friday, May 20, 8 9 p.m.)
- Open House at the Property Yard (Saturday, May 21, 8 a.m. 1 p.m.)
- "Enviroscape" Model at Memorial Day (Monday, May 30, 9 a.m. 5 p.m.)
- Watershed-friendly Garden Tour (Sunday, June 5, 1-5 p.m.)
- June-July, 2005 Northern Virginia radio campaign on preventing storm water pollution

###

www.ci.falls-church.va.us

Coming July 1, 2005 – It's easy to remember – <u>www.fallschurchva.gov</u> - new name, same superior service delivery – City of Falls Church, Virginia.